Sanitary Facilities

The nature of the soil is important is selecting sites for sanitary facilities, and in identifying limiting soil properties and site features to be considered in planning, design, and installation. Soil limitations ratings of slight, moderate, or severe are given for septic tank absorption fields, sewage lagoons, and trench and area type sanitary landfills. Soil suitability ratings of good, fair, and poor are given for daily cover for landfills. Limitations or suitability terms used in this subsection are as follows:

Slight (or Good) - relatively free of limitations or limitations are easily overcome.

Moderate (or Fair) - limitations need to be recognized, but usually can be overcome with good management or special design.

Severe (or Poor or Very Poor) - limitations are difficult or impractical to overcome.

Sanitary Facility Type

Septic Tank Absorption Fields are subsurface systems of tile or perforated pipe that distribute effluent from a septic tank into the natural soil. The centerline depth of the tile is assumed to be at a depth of 24 inches. Only the soil between depths of 24 and 60 inches is considered in making the ratings. The soil properties and site features considered are those that affect the absorption of the effluent, those that affect the construction and maintenance of the system, and those that may affect public health.

Sewage Lagoons are shallow ponds constructed to hold sewage while aerobic bacteria decompose the solid and liquid wastes. Lagoons have a nearly level floor surrounded by cut slopes or embankments of compacted, relatively impervious soil material. Aerobic lagoons generally are designed so that the depth of sewage is 2 to 5 feet. Relatively impervious soil for the lagoon floor and sides is desirable to minimize seepage and contamination of local ground water.

Sanitary Landfill (trench) is a method of disposing of solid waste by placing refuse in successive layers in an excavated trench. The waste is spread, compacted, and covered daily with a thin layer of soil that is excavated from the trench. When the trench is full, a final cover of soil material at least 2 feet thick is placed over the landfill. Properties that influence risk of pollution, ease of excavation, trafficability, and revegetation are major considerations.

Sanitary Landfill (area) is a method of disposing of solid waste by placing refuse in successive layers on the surface of the soil. The waste is spread, compacted, and covered daily with a thin layer of soil that is imported from a source away from the site. A final cover of soil at least 2 feet thick is placed over the completed landfill. Properties that influence trafficability, revegetation, and risk of pollution are the main considerations for area type sanitary landfills.

Daily Cover For Landfill is the soil material that is applied daily to compacted solid waste in an area type sanitary landfill. The cover material is obtained offsite, transported, and spread on the area. Suitability of a soil for use as cover is based on properties that reflect workability and the ease of digging and of moving and spreading the material over the refuse daily during both wet and dry periods.

See the National Soil Survey Handbook, Part 620, for criteria used in rating specific uses.

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Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
AaB ADAMS	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AaC ADAMS	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AAD ADAMS	Severe: poor filter, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope, too sandy	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: seepage, slope, too sandy
AbD ADAMS	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AdA AGAWAM	Slight:	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AdB AGAWAM	Slight:	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AdC AGAWAM	Moderate: slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Poor: seepage, too sandy
AdD AGAWAM	Severe: slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope, too sandy	Poor: seepage, slope, too sandy

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Area Sanitary Landfill	Daily Cover For Landfill
B.P. BORROW PITS	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
BgB BELGRADE	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Good.:
BgC BELGRADE	Severe: wetness	Severe: slope, wetness	Severe: wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Fair: slope
Bo BIDDEFORD	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding	Severe: ponding, too clayey	Severe: ponding	Poor: hard to pack, ponding, too clayey
BUB2 BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Moderate: slope	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Severe: wetness	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey, wetness
BuC2 BUXTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey
CfB CHARLTON	Moderate: percs slowly	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	e Poor: small stones
CfC2 CHARLTON	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	e Poor: small stones
CfD2 CHARLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: slope, small stones

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
ChB CHARLTON	Moderate: percs slowly	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Fair: small stones
ChC CHARLTON	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage	Fair: slope, small stones
ChD CHARLTON	Severe: slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: slope
Ck COASTAL BEACH	Severe: flooding, poor filter, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Poor: seepage, too sandy, wetness
Du DUNE LAND	Severe: poor filter, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope, too sandy	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: seepage, slope, too sandy
EmB ELMWOOD	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: seepage	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Severe: seepage	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey
EMC2 ELMWOOD	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Severe: seepage	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey
G.P. SAND AND GRAVEL PITS	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Slight:	Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
Ha HADLEY	Severe: flooding	Severe: flooding	Severe: flooding	Severe: flooding	Good.:

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Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
HfB HARTLAND	Moderate: percs slowly	Moderate: seepage, slope	Slight:	Slight:	Good.:
HfC2 HARTLAND	Moderate: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Fair: slope
HfD2 HARTLAND	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Poor: slope
HkB HINCKLEY	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
HkC HINCKLEY	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
HkD HINCKLEY	Severe: poor filter, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope, too sandy	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
HrB HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, seepage	Poor: depth to rock, small stones
HrC HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, seepage	Poor: depth to rock, small stones
HrD HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, seepage, slope	Poor: depth to rock, slope

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
HSB HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, seepage	Poor: depth to rock
HsC HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, seepage	Poor: depth to rock
HSD HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, seepage, slope	Poor: depth to rock, slope
Lc LEICESTER	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Poor: small stones, wetness
Le LEICESTER	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Poor: small stones, wetness
Lk LIMERICK	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Poor: wetness
Md Made Land	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
MeB MELROSE	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: seepage	Severe: too clayey	Severe: seepage	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey
MeC MELROSE	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: too clayey	Severe: seepage	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Area Sanitary Landfill	Daily Cover For Landfill
Mf MADE LAND	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
MkB MERRIMAC	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	e Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
MkC2 MERRIMAC	Severe: poor filter	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, too sandy	Severe: seepage	e Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
MkD2 MERRIMAC	Severe: poor filter, slope	Severe: seepage, slope	Severe: seepage, slope, too sandy	Severe: seepage, slope	Poor: seepage, small stones, too sandy
NgB NINIGRET	Severe: poor filter, wetness	Severe: seepage, wetness	Severe: seepage, too sandy, wetness	Severe: seepage, wetness	Poor: seepage, too sandy, wetness
On ONDAWA	Severe: flooding, poor filter	Severe: flooding, seepage	Severe: flooding, seepage, too sandy	Severe: flooding, seepage	Poor: seepage, too sandy
Pa PEAT	Severe: ponding	Severe: excess humus, seepage	Severe: ponding, seepage	Severe: ponding, seepage	Poor: excess humus, ponding
MUCK	Severe: ponding	Severe: excess humus, ponding, seepage	Severe: excess humus, ponding, seepage	Severe: ponding, seepage	Poor: excess humus, ponding
PbB PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly	Moderate: seepage, slope	Slight:	Slight:	Fair: small stones, wetness

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Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
PbC PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope, wetness	Fair: slope, small stones, wetness
PbD PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Poor: slope
PfB PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly	Moderate: seepage, slope	Slight:	Slight:	Fair: small stones
PfC PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly	Severe: slope	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Fair: slope, small stones
PfD PAXTON	Severe: percs slowly, slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Severe: slope	Poor: slope
Py PODUNK	Severe: flooding, poor filter, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Severe: flooding, seepage, wetness	Poor: seepage, too sandy
QU. QUARRIES	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Poor: depth to rock
RhC ROCK LAND	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Poor: depth to rock
HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, seepage	Poor: depth to rock

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Area Sanitary Landfill	Daily Cover For Landfill
RhD					
ROCK LAND	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock	Severe: depth to rock	Poor: depth to rock, slope
HOLLIS	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, slope	Severe: depth to rock, seepage, slope	Poor: depth to rock, slope
S.L.					
STRIPPED LAND	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable	Limitation: variable
Sa					
SACO	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Poor: ponding
ScA					
SCANTIC	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Slight:	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Severe: wetness	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey, wetness
So					
SCARBORO	Severe: ponding, poor filter	Severe: excess humus, ponding, seepage	Severe: ponding, seepage, too sandy	Severe: ponding, seepage	Poor: ponding, seepage, too sandy
SuC2					
SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey
SuD2					
SUFFIELD	Severe: percs slowly, slope, wetness	Severe: slope	Severe: slope, too clayey, wetness	Severe: slope	Poor: hard to pack, slope, too clayey
SxB					
SUTTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Moderate: seepage, slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Fair: small stones, wetness

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Sanitary	Daily Cover For Landfill
sxc SUTTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Fair: slope, small stones, wetness
SyB SUTTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Moderate: seepage, slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Fair: small stones, wetness
syc SUTTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: slope, wetness	Fair: slope, small stones, wetness
SZA SWANTON	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Severe: seepage	Severe: too clayey, wetness	Severe: seepage, wetness	Poor: hard to pack, too clayey, wetness
Tn TIDAL MARSH	Severe: flooding, percs slowly, ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Severe: excess humus, flooding, ponding	Severe: flooding, ponding	Poor: excess salt, hard to pack, ponding
Wa WALPOLE	Severe: poor filter, wetness	Severe: seepage, wetness	Severe: seepage, too sandy, wetness	Severe: seepage, wetness	Poor: seepage, too sandy, wetness
Wg WHATELY	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Severe: ponding, seepage	Severe: ponding, too clayey	Severe: ponding	Poor: ponding, too clayey
Wh WHITMAN	Severe: percs slowly, ponding	Slight:	Severe: ponding	Severe: ponding	g Poor: ponding
Wn WINOOSKI	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Fair: wetness

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The information in this table indicates the dominant soil condition but does not eliminate the need for onsite investigation. Absence of an entry indicates that no rating is applicable.

Soil name and map symbol	Septic Tank Absorption Fields	Sewage Lagoon Areas	Trench Sanitary Landfill	Area Sanitary Landfill	Daily Cover For Landfill
WrB WOODBRIDGE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Moderate: seepage, slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Fair: small stones, wetness
WsB WOODBRIDGE	Severe: percs slowly, wetness	Moderate: seepage, slope	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness	Fair: small stones, wetness

USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service-2002